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Good Samaritan Policy

Saint Mary's College of California

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Good Samaritan Policy

At Saint Mary's College, the welfare of our students is a priority. In incidents of crisis or medical emergency, Saint Mary's students are expected to care for themselves and for others throughout the community by getting help from appropriate College officials even when violations of the Student Code of Conduct may have occurred. Because the College understands that fear of disciplinary actions may deter requests for emergency assistance, the Good Samaritan Policy was created to alleviate such concerns and reduce hesitation by Saint Mary's students to seek help.

Saint Mary's College pursues a policy of limited immunity for students who seek help to others in need. While policy violations cannot be overlooked, Saint Mary's will provide educational options, rather than disciplinary processes, to those who offer their assistance to others in need.

In crisis situations involving alcohol, drugs, and/or Title IX related violations (see below), the College strongly considers the positive impact of taking responsible action when determining the appropriate response for alleged policy violations relating to the incident. **This means that no formal College disciplinary actions or sanctions will be assigned to the reporting student(s) for Category I, Alcohol offenses and/or Category I, Illegal Drug violations relating to the incident.** The incident will still be documented and educational and/or health interventions may be required as a condition of deferring disciplinary sanctions.

This policy does not protect repeated, flagrant, or serious violations of the Community and Student Life Policies (e.g. intimate partner violence, non-consensual sexual contact, sexual assault, sexual misconduct, stalking, distribution of alcohol or drugs, hazing, theft, Good Neighbor Policy violations, property damage, etc.) or violations that caused harm to another person requiring emergency response, nor does the policy preclude or prevent action by police or legal authorities.

Failure of students to take responsible action under this policy where action is clearly warranted and results in harm may, in egregious circumstances, constitute violations under the College and Student Life Policies and will void all protections under this provision.

1. Alcohol/Drugs

In a situation involving imminent danger to the health and safety of any individual(s), students are expected (1) to contact Public Safety at 925-631-4282 or other emergency officials to report the incident; (2) to remain with the individual(s) needing emergency treatment and cooperate with emergency personnel as long as it is safe to do so; and (3) to meet with appropriate College officials after the incident and cooperate with any College investigation. This policy does not provide amnesty for students who report their own medical emergency.

2. Title IX Violations

In a situation where intimate partner violence, non-consensual sexual contact, sexual assault, sexual misconduct, or stalking has been alleged to have been committed against any individual(s), students are encouraged (1) to contact Public Safety at 925-631-4282 or other emergency officials to report the incident; (2) to remain with the individual(s) needing support and cooperate with emergency personnel as long as it is safe to do so; and (3) to meet with appropriate College officials after the incident and cooperate with any College investigation.